

WELSH LINEAGE

DRAWER 1A

HANKS FAMILIES

71. 2009-083. 05575



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2014

https://archive.org/details/hanksfamilylinc_5

Hanks Family

Welsh Lineage

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

Answer, Note #41. "Americans of Royal Descent." Among some pleasant notices in the Transcript of President Lincoln, on the day we celebrated the anniversary of his birth, the choice position at the top of the column was given to an extract from that alleged "True History of the Civil War," by Gay Carlton Lee, of the Johns Hopkins University.

Of the genealogical portion in this extract I wish to say something, since it comes within the scope of this department; not that any ancestry given him would enhance, or detract, the universal respect we have now for Mr. Lincoln, but I write this because I hate to see a falsehood in print. The original promulgation of the falsehood was made, possibly, through ignorance; it was, we may allow, unpremeditated.

Professor Lee, in his effort at artistic word-painting, no doubt thought to bring out in the strongest light possible the subject of his sketch by making the background of Mr. Lincoln's life dark, gloomy, and unattractive. But certainly he went outside of facts, with too much poetic license, when he states that President Lincoln's mother was "the natural off-spring of a Southern planter." And what, pray, does he mean by the "uncivilized West" of Lincoln's boyhood? Mr. Lincoln was born in Kentucky in 1809. The "West" the professor had in mind was the Ohio Valley. In 1800 it was civilized enough to be several States of the United States. And it was peopled, as is well known, by New Englanders, Virginians, Marylanders, Pennsylvanians, who, as soon as they could, made themselves as comfortable as they had been in the lands they had left. Surely Professor Lee does not class New Englanders, Pennsylvanians, Virginians, Marylanders, or the East, as "uncivilized" in 1800. Removal did not "uncivilize" the settlers of the Ohio Valley. Because some were poor and some were rich in possessions, that did not constitute the West they moved into "uncivilized." The American Historical Association composed of nearly all teachers, Professor Lee himself is a member. They are relatively "poor whites" who compared with the "Captains of Industry." But who would dare to class them as "uncivilized," these men who are "Generals of Industry"? Here, in brief, is the extract referred to from Professor Lee: "True History of the Civil War." The antecedents of Lincoln were found in the despised 'whites' of Kentucky. His mother, natural off-spring of a Southern planter. While he was yet a child, the family of Lincoln moved to the sparsely settled and uncivilized West. . . . [He was] the successful rival of the more brilliant Douglas. The latter was of aristocratic origin. On his father's side, he descended from the famous Scotch family of that name. His mother traced her ancestry to William Arnold of Rhode Island, who assisted Roger Williams in founding that colony."

Here it may be noticed an attempt is made to show how genealogically insignificant Lincoln was to Douglas. What are the facts? Mr. Douglas's paternal ancestry has a very short run that is known and it was a long cry, a hollow one, from him to say Douglas of Loch-an, great-grandson of Robert II. of Scotland, grandson of the great Bruce, or to James Douglas, Earl of Morton, son-in-law to James I. of Scotland, or to James Douglas, Earl of Evandale, grandson of Robert III., or to the Earls of Douglas. And as to Mr. Douglas's "Arnold" ancestry, see the Transcript of Feb. 1, 1904, and March 30, 1904. Anyway, while "William Arnold" was doing something great in the way of filling important offices of trust in Rhode Island, Mr. Lincoln had several ancestors doing the same in Pennsylvania.

I don't think it is very generally known who President Lincoln was, genealogically, aside from his "Lincoln" ancestry, so I will repeat some of his Pennsylvania ancestry as compiled by the late Mr. Howard M. Jenkins, of Philadelphia, the well-known Quaker-historian and genealogist, and supplement it with statements from Colonel T. A. G. , a late of Philadelphia, a recognized authority of Welsh pedigrees, which, by the way, are easier compiled, and more reliable than the English; provided the family had any land, or prominence in early times. (See The Antiquary, January, 1903, on "The Value of Welsh Pedigrees.") Cadwalader Evans removed to Gwynedd, near Philadelphia, from his father's farm. From Goch, near Bala, in Merionethshire, Wales, where he was born in 1734. He died in Gwynedd, May 30, 1743.

His wife was Ellen, daughter of John Morris of Bryn Gwyn, Denbighshire. Their daughter, Sarah Evans, married at the Gwynedd Friends Meeting 1759, (all of these people being Welsh Quakers), 11, 10mo, 1711, John Hank, of Whitmarsh, near Philadelphia, a yeoman. His will dated Dec. 12, 1730, was proved in May, 1731 (Philadelphia). His wife was executrix, and he named seven children of whom were William, born 1720; Samuel, born 1723; Joseph, born 1725, and John, born 1712.

John Hank, Jr., born in 1712, resided on a good farm in Exeter township, near Reading, Pa., about half a mile from where Mordecai Lincoln resided on his farm, who was a relative of President Lincoln. John, Jr., sold his Pennsylvania farm in 1787, and with John and Benjamin Lincoln, farmers, his neighbors, who also sold out, removed with their families to near Lacey's Spring, in Rockingham County, Virginia, in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley, where other Lincolns have moved from Pennsylvania. At 7 years John Hank removed to Lexington, Va.

His daughter, Nancy Hank, born in Virginia, in 1788-9, married, in 1808, Thomas Lincoln, who was a son of Abraham Lincoln, who was slain by Indians in Kentucky, being a prisoner. Thomas had brothers, Mordecai, Isaac and Josiah. (See letter below to Thomas and Nancy Hank) Lincoln resided on a small farm near Hodgenville, in Laclede County, Ky. when their only child, Abraham Lincoln, twice President of the United States, was born Sunday, Feb. 12, 1809.

Cadwalader ap Evan, whose name became Evans upon his settling in Pennsylvania, was of distinguished ancestry. He was the son of Evan ap Evan Robert Lewis, of Fron Goch farm, near Bala, who died about 166-. Cadwalader's brother, Thomas Evans, born 1651, also came to Gwynedd, Pa., in 1698, where he died in 1738. (See Jenkins's "History of Gwynedd"). From him descend many of the best known Philadelphia families of today. (See Glenn's "Merton in the Welsh Tract," Pennsylvania.) Cadwalader's father had another brother, Owen, died in 1669, at Fron Goch, who had two daughters, Ellen Owen, wife of Cadwalader Thomas ap Hugh, of Kiltalgarth, Llanvawr Parish, Merionethshire, who suffered persecution and imprisonment in Wales because he was a Quaker. (See Keith's "Provincial Councils of Pennsylvania.") He was the ancestor of the celebrated Cadwalader, McCall, Morris, etc., families of Philadelphia. And he Owen, 1653-1686, who married, in Wales, Hugh Roberts, of Kiltalgarth township, in Merion, a minister among the Friends. They removed to Chester County, Pa., in 1683. In 1692 there was a Provincial Councilor. From them descend the large and wealthy Roberts family of Philadelphia.

Cadwalader Evans's grandfather, Evan ap Robert ap Lewis, of Rhiwlas, and Fron Goch, 1585-1602, was, as may be inferred, the son of Robert Lewis, of Rhiwlas, near Bala, 1555-1645, son of Lew. ap Griffith, of Yspatty-lewan, or Yspatty, Denbigh, 1525-1600, by his wife, Ellen, ven. Edward Ievan, of Ilanwddyn parish, Montgomery. The said Ellen Edwards was of "descent from Edward I., King of Eng."

His husband, from the Royal House of Wales, (Browning's "Colonial Dames of Royal Descent," Pedigree XLVI.).

This is quite sufficient to show that President Lincoln had a clearer claim to "aristocratic origin," than had the more brilliant Douglas.

It may be of sufficient interest to repeat, and preserve in these columns, an important Lincoln genealogical letter which came to light about twenty years ago, it being interesting in connection with the aforesaid pedigree. This is a letter written to Israel Lincoln (father of Dr. Lincoln of Chattanooga, Tenn.), then residing in an upper East Tennessee County.

Springfield, Ill., April 1, 1854.

My Dear Sir, On yesterday I had the pleasure of receiving your letter of the 16th of March. From what you say there can be no doubt that you and I are of the same family. This history of your family as you give it, is precisely what I have always heard, and partly know of my own. As you have supposed, I am the grandson of your Uncle Abraham, and the story of his death by the Indians, and of Uncle Mordecai, then 14 years old, killing one of the Indians is the legend most prominent of all others imprinted upon my mind and memory.

I am the son of grandfather's youngest son, Thomas. I have often heard my father speak of Uncle Isaac, residing on the Wau-tauga (I think), near where the then States of Va., No. Car. and Tenn. join. You seem now to be some hundred miles or so, west of there. I once saw Uncle Mordecai and Uncle Josiah, but never in life resided near either of them. Uncle Mordecai died in 1831, or 1832, in Hancock Co., Ill. where he had then recently removed from Ky. and where his children had also removed, and still reside, as I understand.

Whether Uncle Josiah is dead or living I cannot tell, not having heard from him for more than 20 years. When I last heard from him he was living on Big Blue river, Hancock Co. Ind. I think, and where he has resided ever since before the beginning of my recollection.

My father, Thomas, died the 17th of January, 1851, in Coles Co., Ill., where he had resided 20 years. I am his only child. I have resided here, and hereabouts, 23 years. I am 45 years of age, and have a wife and three children, the oldest 11 years. My wife was born and raised at Lexington, Ky. and my connection with her has sometimes taken me there, where I have heard the old people of her relative speak of your Uncle Thomas and his family. He is dead long ago, and his descendants have gone to some part of Ark. as I recollect what I told you. When I was in Washington, in 1848, I got up a correspondence with David Lincoln, residing at Sparta, Buckingham Co., Va. who, like yourself, was a first cousin of my father, but I forget, if he informed me, which of my grandfather's brothers was his father.

Very truly your relative

(Signed) A. Lincoln.
C. H. B. A.

Answer to Note #41. Boston Transcript, 2-21-05

The transference of King Fraomari to Britain, and his appointment to the office of *Tribunus Gentis Alemannorum* therein, took place in A.D. 372; and the "Ellmyr" in Britain were then "flourishing in estimation, in numbers, and in military strength." This statement of Ammian's fully explains how it is that so many places with Alemannic *P*-names are found all over the map of Anglian Britain, from Portslade and Pevensey in Sussex right up to Paston in Northumberland.

ALFRED ANSCOMBE.

NAMED AFTER A DERBY WINNER.—

In the *Daily Mail* of Saturday, Mar. 26, 1927, in the columns devoted to "People and their doings," "A.D.C." stated that "the late Sir Emilius Laurie was one of the few men ever called after a Derby winner."

The story which I had always heard was that his father, Sir John Edward George Bayley (second Bart.), was expecting his firstborn, and that he made a very substantial bet that he would call the child after the winner of the Derby. The story went on to say that Emilius won the race and that a horse named Pomatum was second: truly a narrow escape for one to whom, as a prospective baronet his Christian name would be more than usually important.

I find, however, that on 29 May, 1823, the eleven starters in the Derby Stakes were as follows:—Felix, Nicolo, Tancred, Talisman, Cinder, Caphalos, Bertram, Triumph, Young Quiz, Emilius, and another horse (unnamed) brother to Moonraker. Emilius, owned by Mr. Udney, was favourite, and just before the race was backed at even money: he won by a length, ridden by Buckle, Tancred ran second, and Caphalos and Talisman disputed third place.

The Reverend Sir Emilius Bayley was born 16 May, 1823 and in 1887 assumed the name of Laurie on inheriting the Maxwellton estate in Dumfriesshire. He was a remarkable man in many ways and, *inter alia*, was the first Eton boy to beat Harrow off his own bat at Lord's. He died 4 Dec., 1917, aged 94.

H. S. G.

WELSH ANCESTRY OF PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN.—The genealogy of such an illustrious, dominant personality as the American President, to whom the civilised world owes an incalculable debt, is worthy of notice. The old established

New York bookseller, ardent Welshman, book connoisseur and well informed *litterateur*, Henry Blackwell, gave publicity in the monthly booklet *Cambrian Gleanings* (1914) which he edited, to the Welsh pedigree of the President. The circumstantial chain as attested in fulness merits reproduction in 'N. & Q.'

The mother of Abraham Lincoln and wife of Thomas was Nancy, daughter of John Hanks, son of John Hanks and Sarah Evans, daughter of Cadwalader Evans, of Gwynedd, Pennsylvania. John Hanks and Sarah Evans were married 1711. Cadwalader Evans was born in the township of Ucheldre, Penlllyn (North Wales), and was the second son of Evan ap Evan (otherwise Evan Lloyd Evans) of that place, who was buried at Llanior 25th April, 1690. A MS. pedigree of the family, the earlier portion of which seems to have been compiled by the bard William Cyval (a descendant) was brought to Pennsylvania by the Evans family in 1698, and has been verified for many generations (see 'Welsh Founders of Pennsylvania,' Vol. ii.).

Evan ap Evan was the son of Evan Robert Lewis (*i.e.* Evan ap Robert ap Lewis), of Cynlas, near Bala, who was born in the parish of Ysbytty Ifan, Denbighshire, and buried in Llandderfel, 28th September, 1668. This gentleman was twice married. His first wife (mother of all his surviving children) seems to have been the heiress of one half of Coed y Foel, near Bala, which farm was subsequently owned by Evan's eldest son Cadwalader of Coed y Foel, gentleman (*d.s.p.*), whose will was proved at St. Asaph, 31 January, 1688-9. The ancestors of Robert Lewis came from Penllech, Caernarvonshire, to Ysbytty Ifan, or rather to that neighbourhood, with the celebrated Meredydd Wynn, founder of the house of Gwydir (outside Llanwrst), traced descent through Dafydd Goch of Penllech (said to have died Abbot of Bardsey Isle), progenitor of Griffiths of Cefn Amiwch, from the Princes of South Wales. The latter connection given by Vaughan of Hengwrt, William Cyval, and other genealogists, has been queried by Bridgeman; but recent researches go far to establish the accuracy of the pedigree. The wife of Cadwalader (Welsh Cadwaladr) Evans, father of Sarah, ancestress of Lincoln, was Ellen, daughter of John Morris, Bryn Eglwys, Denbighshire, her mother being a daughter of Ellis Williams (admin. 26th February, 1645-6) of Cae Fadog, in the township of Citalgarth, near Bala. Ellis Williams traced in the male line to Bledodyn, Prince of Powys, through Madog Hyddgam, of Citalgarth, near Bala. By various alliances of these families, Lincoln was descended from the Princes of Rhiwlas, Wynn of Gwydir, Lloyd of Y Ddwyfaen, Langwm, etc. The Hank family was also partly Welsh.

THOMAS ALLEN GLENN.

ANEURIN WILLIAMS.

LINCOLN KING ALFRED'S KIN, PAPER SHOWS

By STANLEY A. WEIGEL

(Copyright by Pacific Coast News Service)

PALO ALTO, July 3.—Abraham Lincoln was a lineal descendant of Charlemagne and Alfred the Great.

This is the opinion of David Starr Jordan, chancellor emeritus of Stanford University. It is based upon the research co-operation of Sarah Louise Kimball of Palo Alto, distinguished genealogist, who has furnished Dr. Jordan with material for a new book to be called "Your Family Tree."

Miss Kimball has carefully traced Lincoln's family tree on his mother's side. Nancy Hank's heritage runs through a line of Welshmen to Eva Marshall, an English woman, who was the wife of William, sixth Baron de Braose.

Their ancestry is then traced back to Richard de Clare and that in turn to Elizabeth de Bellmont, who was the wife of Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Pembroke in the twelfth century.

Then, through a long and intricate, but unmistakable family tree, the line is traced through to Charlemagne, great ruler of the ancient Franks, and Alfred the Great, king of England.

This common ancestry to both Charlemagne and Alfred the Great is explained by the fact that their children intermarried, Dr. Jordan points out.

See this with the new books

YOUR FAMILY TREE. By David Starr Jordan and Sarah Louise Kimball. 346 pp. New York: D. Appleton & Co. \$3.

GENEALOGY, it would seem, is the handmaid of democracy—or ought to be, if the two of them realized their possible services to each other. This book makes it clear that kings and common men are so close akin and aristocracy and democracy are so intertwined that the only possible regulation is for all to meet as equals without claims of privilege and exception. The two authors have made a startling exposition of the ancestry of good American citizens, many thousands of whom will doubtless hear, without any excitement whatever, that they are descended from Charlemagne or Alfred the Great, or perhaps from both. Dr. Jordan quotes approvingly the statement of Dr. E. M. Best of McGill University that "every one of us is descended from William the Conqueror, and Anglo-Saxons are, all of us, at least thirtieth cousins to each other."

Of the two authors' shares, that of Dr. Jordan, Chancellor Emeritus of Stanford University, seems to have been chiefly the writing of the introductory chapters on "Scientific Aspects of Genealogy," wherein he discourses upon the methods and rules of human inheritance, the parts played by nature and by nurture in the making of character and the general subject of ancestry. Miss Kimball appears to have been the investigator and the compiler of the genealogic charts that fill the greater part of the volume. She has been for many years a student of American genealogy and of the way its lines stretch back through the centuries of Old World history.

These charts take four lines of descent, which can be traced back to Charlemagne and Alfred the Great and apply them to the ancestry of well-known American families. Among those descended from Henry I, King of France, are Nathaniel Hawthorne, Chief Justice Taft, David Starr Jordan, Winston Churchill, Aaron Burr, John D. Rockefeller, John Hays Hammond, Thomas Nelson Page. General Grant dates back to William the Conqueror, and Thomas Jefferson and a host of others to David I, King of Scotland. Abraham Lincoln, after all the aspersions cast upon his origin, is found to descend from Henry I of France and that, too, through his mother, who has been even more aspersed than he. Not without certain diverting features, the book, which is the outcome of an enormous amount of patient research, throws interesting light on important questions of heredity and of racial strains and national characteristics.

26 John of Whitmarsh (1676-) Evans, Society (1676-1677) 1676-1677 1676-1677

Columbus O.

Aug 29. '32

Mr Louis A. Harren,
Fort Wayne, Ind.

Dear Sir:

I have read
with much interest your article
in the Ohio State Journal on
Lincoln's Ancestors. It is
indeed gratifying to know that
Thomas Lincoln was not the
worthless man so often labeled.

I am wondering
if you have made equal research
in Lincoln's maternal ancestry;
and I am interested to know
whether you have found that
Lincoln was descended from

Cadwallader Evans - a Quaker
preacher - and who, I believe
was a grandfather of
Nancy Hanks.

I had a cousin
who made a study of the
Evans family some years ago,
but at his death the findings
were incomplete. He felt sure,
however, of a relationship between
the ancestry of Lincoln and our
own Evans ancestry.

An old Quaker book
in our family with an account
of Cadwallader Evans, was
marked in such a way
that we took for granted
he was an ancestor.

I might add that I
am descended from a long line
of Quaker forebears. My

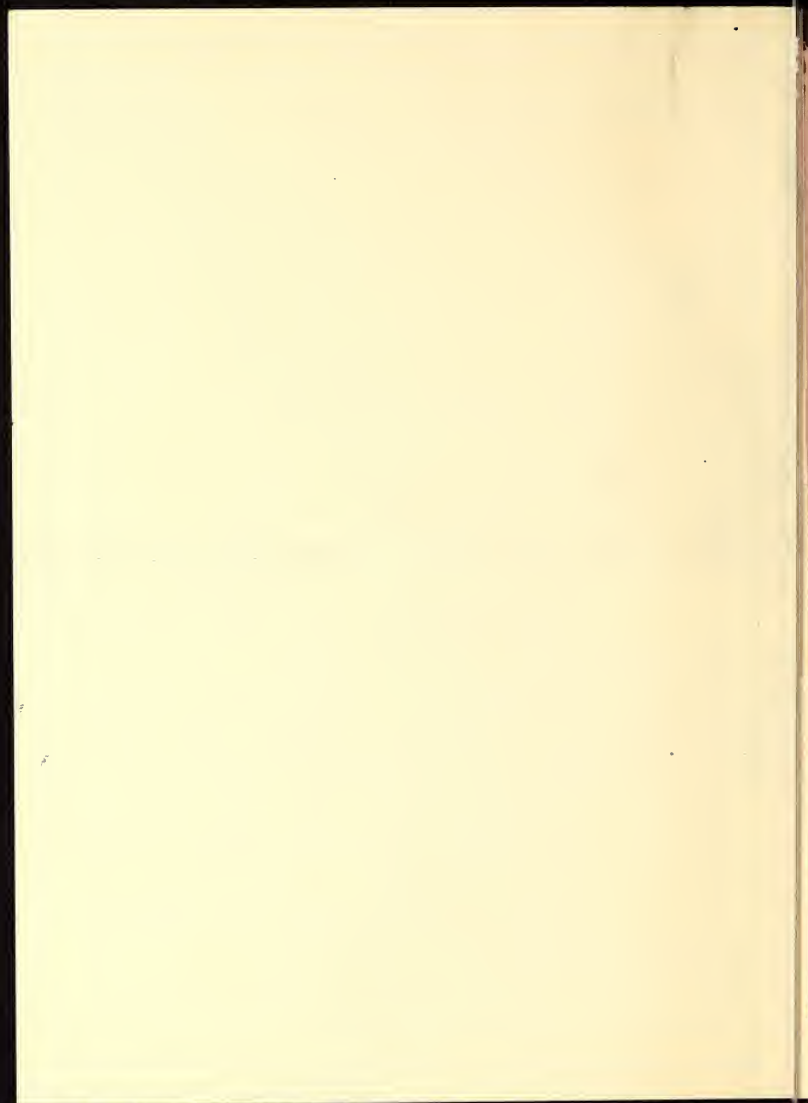
great-great grandfather
Joshua Evans was a well-
known preacher. He has
given an account of his
travels and religious work in
the tenth volume of the "Friends
Miscellany" (Congressional Library).
We know that his grandmother
on his father's side was
Elizabeth Hanke, and his
mother's father was Joshua Owen.

I should be pleased
to receive any information
you may have regarding
the Evans ancestry of Lincoln.

Very truly yours,

Dellie H. Evans,

401 N. 10th Ave



September 1, 1932

Miss Nellie H. Evans
401 W. 10th Ave.
Columbus, Ohio

Dear Madam:

It is a pleasure indeed to hear from you and get your reaction toward the Hanks family connection with the Evans family.

We have in our Museum here an enormous amount of Hanks data which we are now preparing to organize in such a way that we feel the question of Lincoln's Maternity will be settled.

You will be interested in receiving the enclosed bulletins and if you care to do so we will place your name on our mailing list for subsequent issues. These bulletins are sent gratis.

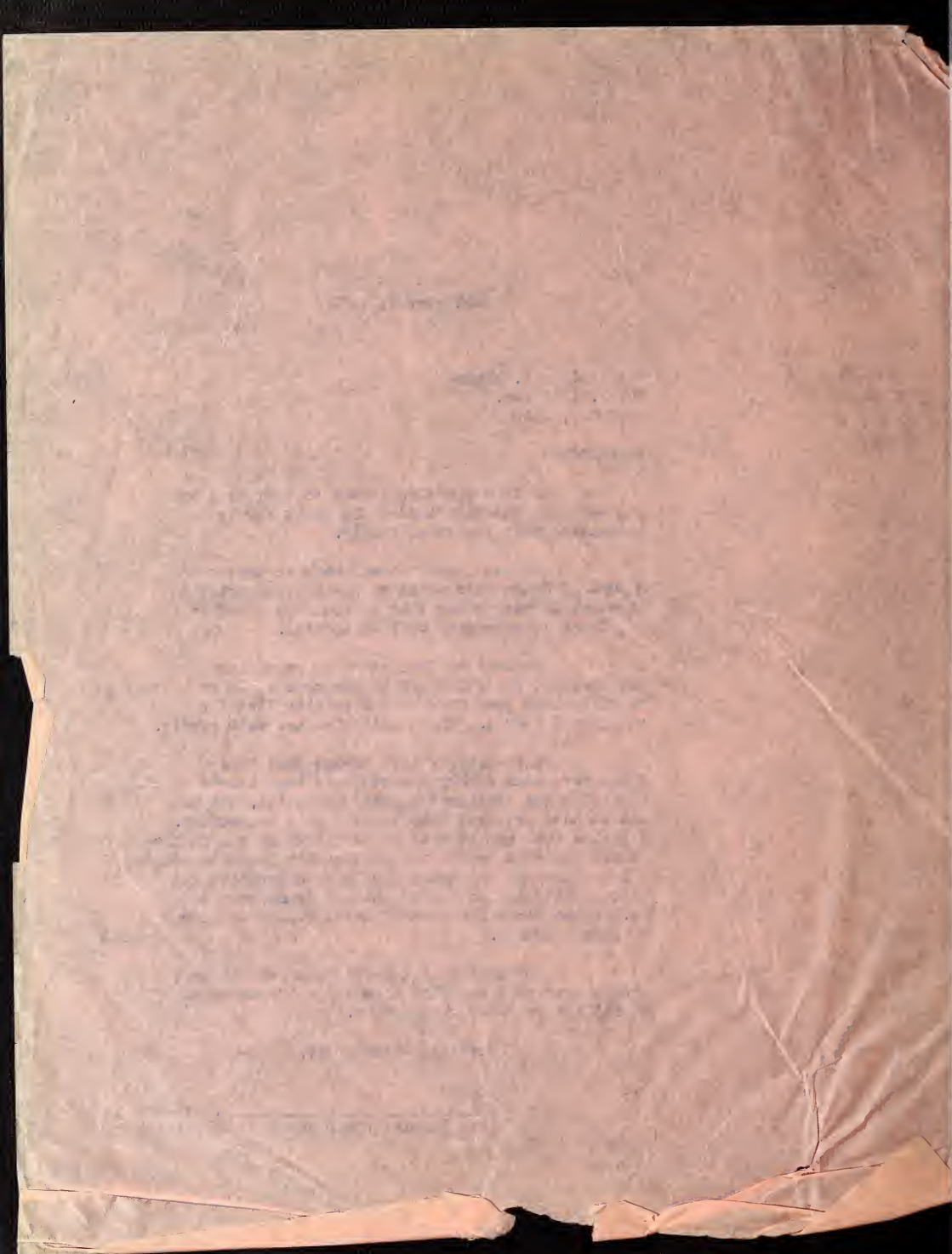
Personally, I have always felt that there were some Quaker ancestors in the Lincoln family as the President himself so stated, but as yet we have not been able to make this connection. I rather feel now it will be made through the family of his Mother's people rather than his Father's people. I have known of the Evans and Hanks connection for a long while and we may be able to trace back to Mr. Joshua Evans and some of his forbears in answer to your question.

I am sure that I have Evans records here and as soon as I can find time to go through them I will let you know what I have.

Very sincerely yours,

_____, Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

LAT:MEH
Enc.



Columbus C.

Sept 4 - '32

Mr Louis A. Warren,
Fort Wayne, Ind.

My dear Sir:

I wish to thank
you for your reply to my letter,
and for the very interesting
bulletins enclosed.
Indeed I shall be greatly
pleased to have my name on
your mailing list for later
issues you may send out.
They are attractively printed
and very well written.

I passed through
Fort Wayne two or three years
ago on a motor trip to the
Black Hills and had I known
of your Museum, I'm sure
I would have tarried much
longer than for mere refreshment
at a corner drug store!

I shall appreciate your
looking over the Evans records
you have - but I fear that
Joshua Evans will not lead
directly to Lincoln's ancestors.
Joshua was the son of Thomas
(1693-1783) whose memorial is
in an old Collection of Memorials
(1784) - and I believe Thomas
was the son of William Evans
and Elizabeth Hanks.

My cousin, I am sure,
felt that he had made the
Evans-Hanks connection. I
haven't his notes, but I think
he traced Lincoln's ancestors
directly to Cadwallader Evans,
who came from Wales in 1698.

Cadwallader had two
children - John and Sarah.
Sarah married (in 1711) John Hanks
of Whittemore, Ipswich.
Among their several children
was John b 1712. Could it be
that this John - grandson of

Cadwalader Evans was the father
of Nancy Hanks? In a book
I have - "Historical Collections
of Gwynedd" I find that a
certain John Hanks "was in
Rockingham Co. Va. at least
as early as 1787" - probably
the same John Hanks who was
the son of Sarah Evans.

Lincoln said that his parents
were born in Virginia, later
going to Kentucky, and in one
of your bulletins I find
that Nancy Hanks lost her
father before she reached
her teens. If this same John
Hanks was the father of
Nancy Hanks, he was in his
servitude when in Virginia
and might well have died
before Nancy was in her teens.
Or is this a far-fetched
conclusion?

In this same collection are these
words - (speaking of Nancy)

"- but her black hair we may believe she had from the Welsh blood of her ancestress Sarah Evans of Gwynedd."

It is useless for me to try to impart my meager knowledge. I shall hope, later this fall, after I have my school well started, to go to Hilmington and copy some of my cousin's notes.

I have the old book Collection of Memorials (1787) the Joshua Evans Journal (I wrote you about) and the Historical Collections of Gwynedd - any or all of which I should be pleased to send you if you are interested in them.

You know the Quakers were originally called Peeters and I think I am a true Quaker, in that I am

ever seeking! And I
sure I shall always remain
a seeker until the Evans-Hunt
connection is completely
found out. Needless
to say, I shall hope
in the finding that
Lincoln's Evances and
my own were close
relatives;

Very truly yours,
Orell H. Evans





The Lincoln Kinsman

Number 49

Fort Wayne, Indiana

July, 1942

The Pennsylvania Hank Family

LINCOLN'S ALLEGED ROYAL DESCENT TRACED THROUGH
SARAH EVANS HANK

The most sensational statement ever made about Abraham Lincoln's maternal line of descent appeared in David Starr Jourdan's book, *Your Family Tree*, published about a dozen years ago in which it was alleged the President descended from royalty. In collaboration with the distinguished genealogist, Sarah Louise Kimball, the authors traced the maternal ancestry of Lincoln to both Charlemagne and Alfred the Great.

The family with which the Hanks intermarried, that made possible the alleged descent, was named Evans. Cadwallader Evans was the son of Evan Lloyd Evans of Wales and was the youngest of four brothers migrating to America. He died at Gwynedd, Pennsylvania on May 20, 1745. It is true that the ancestral line of Cadwallader Evans has been traced back through a line of Welshmen to Eva Marshall, an English woman who was the wife of William, sixth Baron de Brasse. Following the line through the Earl of Pembroke, thence as one

reviewer puts it; "through a long and intricate but unmistakable family tree, the line is traced through to Charlemagne, great ruler of the ancient Franks, and Alfred the Great, king of England."

Cadwallader and Ellen (Morris) Evans of Gwynedd, Pennsylvania, had a daughter Sarah who married John Hank (ab) of Whitemarsh, Pennsylvania on October 10, 1711. It was through this union that the tracing of Lincoln's royal descent was attempted. There are many theories extant which would connect Nancy Hanks, the mother of Lincoln, with this John Hank, who married Sarah Evans, and some of them will be considered in this issue of *The Kinsman*.

Several descendants of John Hank (ab) of Pennsylvania have contributed to our knowledge of the family, but to Mrs. Myra Hank Rudolph, Warren, Ohio is due the most credit for gathering and organizing information about the Hank colony.

Her conclusions were printed in four installments of *The Monroe Watchman*, published at Union, West Virginia in the issues of April 24, May 1, May 8, and May 15, 1930. Mrs. Caroline Hanks Hitchcock of Cambridge, Massachusetts and Mrs. Charles T. White of Brookline, Massachusetts gathered much of the source material that made possible a documentary history of the family. The editor of *The Kinsman* has also done considerable research work in Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia court houses in tracing the movements of this family.

It is fortunate from the viewpoint of the biographer that the early members of the Hank family were affiliated with the Quaker or Friends church, and it is from the pages of the record books of these devout people that we have been able to discover many notations recording the vital statistics of the family.

Origin of the Family

The Hank family originated in Derbyshire, England. The first man by the name of Hank to come to America was named Luke. He was a widower whose wife, Jane Wheatcroft Hank, had passed away on February 7, 1680 in England. Sometime between the date of his wife's death and 1682 Luke arrived on this side of the Atlantic and entered land in what was then Chester County, Pennsylvania. He may have been twice a widower as he was forty-six years old at the time of his marriage to Jane, and it appears as if a daughter named Elizabeth, who was much too old to have been the daughter of Jane Hank, accompanied him to America. Luke's only child by Jane Hank, was a son Luke, but it is not

known whether he survived infancy, as he was but six days old when his mother died. Luke purchased two tracts of land in Chester County in 1682. After the marriage of his daughter, Elizabeth, in 1693, he returned to England and died at his old home there in 1701.

It is the brother of this Luke Hank of Derbyshire, England in whom we have particular interest, however. His name was John (a), and he had two sons, Luke (aa) and John (ab). Most of the settlers of Darby township, Chester (now Delaware) County, Pennsylvania were from the elder John's home in Derbyshire, England, and it is in Chester that we discover the first Hank colony of this particular branch in America. John Hank (ab) was a witness to a marriage there as early as 1698. It was in this same community where the first emigrant, Luke, had lived before.

In the records of the Friends meeting at Gwynedd, however, we find valuable entries which contributed much to the beginning of the genealogical history of the family in America. On November 10, 1711 John Hank (ab) married Sarah Evans, daughter of Cadwallader Evans. John died in 1731 and his widow married Thomas Williams. From the Burlington Quaker records we learn that on July 22, 1737 John Hank (aaa) of Philadelphia, son of Luke, Derbyshire, England, and Rebecca Bryan, daughter of Thomas Bryan, were married. These two Johns and their families furnish the background for a study of the American branch of the family.

Some confusion is caused by the many different forms of the name of Hank, as it is found spelled Hanck,

Hancke, Hank, Hanke and Hanks, also in each instance the "n" often appears to be a "w." Except where quotations are used or familiar names spelled otherwise we shall abide by the spelling Hank in this monograph as that seems to be the predominant spelling in this branch of the family. *Nancy, Traditional Daughter of John Hank (aba)*

Many of the earlier biographers of Abraham Lincoln were convinced that both his paternal and maternal ancestry lived as neighbors in Berks County, Pennsylvania, and migrated together to Rockingham County, Virginia where they were again associated. In this county it was alleged that both the father and mother of Abraham Lincoln were born. These biographers drew their conclusions from the facts that the Lincolns and Hankses were neighbors, rather than from any traditions or early family folklore which had been preserved.

Howard M. Jenkins in his *Historical Collections of Gwynedd* was one of the earliest authors to place emphasis upon the probable association of the Lincoln and Hank family in Pennsylvania. He states, "John Hank lived on the Perkiomen Turnpike six miles east of Reading in Exeter Township, Berks County and within half a mile of Mordecai Lincoln, great-grandfather of the President. This John Hank with John and Benjamin Lincoln moved to Fayette County and from there Hank went southward."

Charles C. Coffin, one of the more dependable biographers of Lincoln, brings the families together in Berks County, Pennsylvania and has them emigrating to Rockingham County, Virginia about the same time. He

states, "John Hanks, Junior and John and Thomas Lincoln sold their farms in Union (Pennsylvania), made their way across the Potomac River and settled near Harrisonburg, Virginia." (p. 8).

Coffin again mentions the two families upon their arrival in Kentucky, "We have seen John Lincoln and John Hanks settling side by side in the Shenandoah Valley. The children of Abraham Lincoln were in Kentucky. It is not strange that the descendants of John Hanks should also be there. Joseph Hanks had emigrated to Kentucky. He was a carpenter of Elizabethtown. Shall we think it strange that Thomas Lincoln, who was working with him found pleasure in the society of his nieces—Lucy, Elizabeth, Polly and Nancy Hanks?" (p. 14, 15.)

Descendants of the Rockingham County Hank family, basing their testimonies on family tradition, have long claimed relationship to Abraham Lincoln. One of the members of the family stated that an Ohio history gave the names of her paternal grandparents, William Cherrington and his wife, Margaret Hank (abah), and claimed that Margaret was a "sister of Nancy Hanks, Abraham Lincoln's mother." The informant then concluded, "Yes I know an aunt raised Nancy. I cannot say just why. She was much younger than Margaret. There were several children."

Another Cherrington kinsman, a grandson of Margaret Hank Cherrington (abah), states in a letter dated March 12, 1895, "My grandmother had a sister much younger than herself who is said to have married Thomas Lincoln about 1806 and became the mother of the world's great-

The Lincoln Kinsman

Published Monthly by
LINCOLNIANA PUBLISHERS
 Box 1110—Fort Wayne, Ind.

**EDITOR**

DR. LOUIS A. WARREN,
 Director, Lincoln National Life Foundation

BUSINESS MANAGER

MAURICE A. COOK

Annual Subscription \$2.00
 Single Copies25

**SERIES ON RELIABILITY OF SOURCES
 USED BY KINSMEN OF THE LINCOLNS
 AND HANKSES.**

- No. 43 John and Charles Hanks
- No. 44 James L. Nall
- No. 45 Dennis Friend Hanks
- No. 46 Charles Friend's Notes
- No. 47 Squire Thompson and Charlotte
 Vawter
- No. 48 Caroline and Charles S. Hanks

est benefactor, Abraham Lincoln."

A great-grandson of Margaret Hank, widow of John (aba), who moved to Rockingham County about 1777, stated in a letter dated April 7, 1895 that he could only remember the names of four of Margaret's children; John, the Revolutionary soldier; William, his grandfather; Margaret, who married Cherrington, and Nancy, who married the father of Abraham Lincoln. The correspondent said, "I have often heard father speak of his aunt marrying Lincoln."

A descendant of Caleb Hank (abagb) makes this statement in a letter written to Mrs. Hitchcock on November 6, 1899, "Before Lincoln was known this Caleb Hank, my grandfather, used to say that an aunt of his had moved to Kentucky and married a man by the name of Lincoln, giving an accent on the last syllable. After Lincoln became prominent, he asserted as his belief that they were cousins."

Most of the traditions about the parentage of Nancy Hanks which have originated with the Hank family, claim that John (aba) was the father of Nancy. It is not known whether John died before the migration of the family to Rockingham County, Virginia, but nine children were born to John and Margaret by 1774. At least two sons and four daughters accompanied the mother at the time of removal into the Shenandoah Valley.

John Hank (aba), the oldest son of John (ab), was born in 1712 and married Margaret Williams in February 1737, according to the Gwynedd meeting records, and continued to attend there until 1850 when he and his wife affiliated with Richland meeting, but two years later they returned to Gwynedd. The last we learn of John Hank is in the records of Gwynedd under the date of January 26, 1768 when he was in controversy over some money matters. The general consensus of opinion is that John died previous to 1774 when his wife, Margaret, requested a letter of removal from Gwynedd meeting.

Margaret Hank, possibly then a widow, placed her membership with the Hopewell meeting of Virginia, in 1777, and the records of this meeting contain many notations of the family. As late as 1784 Margaret was listed in the commission book of Rockingham County as the head of a family of four persons.

The name Nancy never appears in the contemporary records of the John Hank family in either Pennsylvania or Virginia, although the children of John and Margaret are often mentioned. Furthermore Margaret Hank was called "widow" in the church

register as early as 1781 and she had probably been a widow for several years. Although the exact birthdate of Lincoln's mother is not known, it is never placed earlier than 1783 or later than 1786. In 1784, the birthdate most often used, Margaret Hank, the wife of John Hank, had been a widow many years and was then sixty-four years of age.

It would seem foolish, indeed, to attempt to trace Abraham Lincoln's royal descent from Charlemagne through an infant born to a sixty-four year old widow, whose husband apparently had been dead for a decade.

Nancy, Traditional Daughter of Joseph Hank (abg)

The claim of Lincoln's royal descent through Cadwallader Evans' daughter, Sarah, who married John Hank (ab), is not entirely eliminated by the discovery that Sarah's oldest son John (aba) and his wife, Margaret, could not possibly have been parents of the President's mother, Nancy Hanks. There was another son of John and Sarah, named Joseph (agb), through whom it also is claimed the royal line of descent can be traced.

Lea and Hutchinson in their book, *The Ancestry of Abraham Lincoln*, were under the impression that Joseph was the father of Nancy and stated, "The family removed to Rockingham County, in the immediate vicinity of the Lincolns, adding greatly to the probabilities." (p. 117). The authors also made an effort to identify the Joseph Hanks of Hardin County, Kentucky with the Joseph Hank of Berks County, Pennsylvania. It is doubtful if either of these Josephs was ever in Rockingham County, Vir-

ginia, the alleged place of arrival from Pennsylvania and of departure for Kentucky.

The Lea and Hutchinson conclusion has been presented in a slightly different version by a recent biographer, J. Huston Harrison, in his book, *Settlers by the Long Trail*. He tried to identify as kinsman of the President a "Brother Hanks" and a "Sister Hanks" who were members of the same church in Rockingham County to which "Brother Lincoln" belonged. This was his conclusion:

"Considering the circumstances it appears highly probable that 'Bro. Hanks' was Joseph (Jr.) who resided with his mother Nancy, and that Nancy, the future wife of Thomas Lincoln was stopping with her grandmother when some occasion of the neighborhood, perchance one of the identical church meetings of these old minutes, happened to lead to their introduction." (p. 443).

Still another version of the story comes from Harry M. Strickler in his book, *Old Tenth Legion Marriages*, where he calls attention to the marriage in Rockingham County, of a certain John Hank and Anny Runnion. He states with reference to the bride, Anny or Nancy (Runnion) Hank; "This may have been the mother of Abraham Lincoln. Nancy having married a second time Thomas Lincoln." (p. 63).

It was undoubtedly the same Nancy who married John Hank on January 19, 1800, who appears on the church records as "Sister Nancy Hanks." She was a candidate for baptism in the church on October 8, 1808, four months before Abraham Lincoln was born. Nancy Runnion Hank was still a member of the congregation in

1818, which happens to be the same year that the mother of Abraham Lincoln died in Indiana. Undoubtedly it is the same Nancy Runnion Hank who conveyed land in 1829 to her children Isaac, Daniel, Mary and John (Rockingham County Deed Book, p. 39 v. 9). The 1810 census shows John Hank (Sr.) with three sons and one daughter. It is not known, if so, how this family was related to the Pennsylvania Hank family.

To get back to the traditional "Brother Joseph" of Rockingham County, whom we have now learned to be "Brother John Hanks," husband of "Sister Nancy Hanks," we must give up any hope of bringing Joseph's widow back to Rockingham County, as it is quite certain the widow of Joseph Hank of Kentucky returned to Amelia County, Virginia.

Joseph Hank (abg), son of John (ab), was born in 1725 at White-marsh township. His parents were associated with the Gwynedd Friends in whose church register the births of the children were recorded. When Joseph was 27 years old he is noted as having had some difficulty with this church and one year later in 1753 he removed into the community of the Exeter meeting. His certificate of removal from Gwynedd was approved but he did not present it at Exeter until over a year later, on May 30, 1754. On October 26, 1754 this testimony was read against him in the Exeter church:

"Whereas Joseph Hank by a Certificate sent after him from North Wales (Gwynedd) is found to be of our Society, but not adhering to the Witness of God in his own heart, and likewise Marrying one of another

Profession for which he has refused to give Satisfaction. We do therefore hereby Disown the said Joseph Hank to be of our Society until he gives manifest sign of True Repentance, which we heartily Desire he may."

At the following meeting of the church it was noted that as he desired no appeal he ceased to be a member of the Exeter meeting. It is of interest to note that at this time when Joseph Hank was living in Exeter community Abraham Lincoln, paternal grandfather of the President, was living in the same township. ~~This fact has not been overlooked by those who are confident it was this Joseph who became the father of the President's mother, although in 1741 Abraham was but ten years old while Joseph was twenty-eight.~~

Joseph Hank apparently remained in the community until his neighbor, John Lincoln's boy, Abraham, grew to maturity. Joseph was taxed in Reading township from 1754 to 1763 and in Exeter township from 1779 to 1783. As late as 1793 there was a Joseph Hank whose name appeared in the records of West Chester as having sold land at that time.

Inasmuch as Joseph Hank was not in good standing with the church after his marriage we have no means of learning the number of children or their names. The name of his wife is not known although it may have been Ann. The first account of Joseph which we have after his birth is the signing as a witness to a will made by John Edwards of Montgomery County, on April 9, 1749. The month before an Ann Hanks is mentioned in the will of Olliver Williams in the same county.

It is not likely that Joseph Hank

born in 1725 was the father of a daughter Nancy, born sixty years later. If the line of royal descent is to be traced through Joseph Hank, the son of Sarah Evans Hank, apparently there is another generation between Joseph and the mother of Lincoln for which we will have to account. There is no documentary evidence available which would support the theory of David Starr Jourdan or the traditions of the Hank family that Abraham Lincoln's line of descent can be traced through Sarah Evans who married John Hank.

Hank Genealogy

The genealogy of the Hank family is not continued beyond the sixth generation as that is sufficiently late enough for descendants still living to make accurate family connections. Of course the entire genealogy is fragmentary, but this abbreviated outline may contribute to a more exhaustive compilation in the future.

First Generation

a. John, ?-1679.

Second Generation

aa. Luke, 1673-(1737).

Brown, Hannah.

ab. John, 1676-?

Evans, Sarah.

Third Generation

aaa. John, ?-(1772).

Brian, Rebecca.

aba. John, 1712-(1781).

Williams, Margaret.

abb. Jane, 1714-1762.

Roberts, John.

abc. Elizabeth, 1716-?

Evans, John.

abd. William, 1719-?

Died in infancy.

abe. William, 1720-1796.

abf. Samuel, 1723-?

Going, Sarah.

abg. Joseph, 1725-?

abh. Sarah, 1728-?

Fourth Generation

aaaa. Hannah, 1738-?

aaab. John, ?-(1829).

Ewing, (Evens) Rachel.

abaa. John, 1738-?

Never married.

abab. Caleb, ?-1770.

Married but no offspring.

abac. Jane, ?-1745.

Deceased early in life.

abad. Joshua, ?-1758.

Deceased early in life.

abae. Susannah, ?-?

Bryan, Thomas.

abaf. Ellen, ?-?

Never married.

abag. William, 1754-1823.

Berry, Susannah.

abah. Margaret, 1755-1797.

Cherrington, William.

abai. Hannah, 1760-?

Lupton, Asa.

ab??a. Daniel, 1771-1821.

Masterson, Mary.

ab??b. John, 1779-1849.

Bell,

Fifth Generation

abaga. David, 1783-1854.

1. Tackett, Sarah.

2. Parsons, Elizabeth.

3. Dalzell, Sarah

(Stanley).

abagb. Caleb, 1789-1869.

1. Smith, Nancy.

2. Rayhill, Elizabeth.

3. Matthews, Mary Ann.

4. Dixon, Hermion

(Weeks).

abagc. Margaret, 1792-1808.

Never married.

abagd. John, 1794-1831.

Price, Rebecca.

- abage. William, 1796-1869.
 Peale, Serena.
 abagf. Mary, 1798-1857.
 Smith, Christopher.
 abagg. Jehu, 1801-1881.
 1. Brattan, Malvina D.
 2. Berger, Susan K.
 Sixth Generation
 abagaa. George Berry, 1827-?
 Weed, Olive.
 abagab. Nancy, 1828-?
 abagac. James Williams, 1830-?
 abagad. Jehu B., 1832-?
 abagae. John Jarsons, 1833-?
 abagaf. Caleb Robert, 1836-?
 abagag. Susannah, 1838-?
 abagah. Sarah Elizabeth, 1842-?
 abagai. Mary Catherine, 1850-?
 Liddle, William H.
 abagaj. David, 1854-?
 — — —
 abagba. Mary, 1809-1832.
 Cherrington, Jefferson.
 abagbb. Susan, 1811-?
 Wood, Archibald.
 abagbc. Margaret Williams, 1815-?
 Cherrington, Clinton.
 abagbd. William, 1815-?
 abagbe. Sarah, 1819-?
 Shiers, Christopher.
 abagbf. Eliza, 1821-?
 Knapp, Moses.
 abagbg. David, 1823-?
 abagbh. Infant.
 abagbi. Infant.
 abagbj. Jane B., 1833-1856.
 Ewing, John.
 abagbk. Alvin Ewing, 1835-?
 Abbott, Lydia.
 abagbl. Isabel Virginia, 1838-?
 Ewing, William.
 abagbm. Nancy Ann, 1840?
 Ewing, Henry.
 abagbn. Rebecca Ellen, 1842-?
 McClung, Robert.
 abagbo. John William, 1844-?
 Rice, Mildred.
 abagbp. Caleb, 1847-1893.
 Davis, Laura.
 — — —
 abagda. Eliza, ?-?
 abagbd. Margaret, ?-?
 abagdc. Thomas, ?-1831.
 — — —
 abagea. John William Fletcher,
 1826-?
 Keener, Anna.
 abageb. Jehu Newman, 1827-?
 abagec. James Bernard, 1829-?
 abaged. Armenius Summerfield,
 1831-?
 abagee. Susan Catherine, 1833-?
 abagef. Emory Waugh, 1836-?
 — — —
 abagga. Virginia, 1830-1830.
 abaggb. Josiah Dickinson, 1835-?
 abagge. Susan, 1838-?
 Morgan,
 abaggd. Malvina D., 1840-?
 Woolwine.
 abagge. Fanny, 1842-?
 Joice,
 abaggf. David, 1846-?
 Leonidas,
 abaggg. Wilbur F., 1848-?
- ASSOCIATED FAMILIES**
- Roberts*
- The children of John and Jane Hank (abb) Roberts were Cadwallader, John, Elizabeth, Ruth, Sarah, Ann, Jane, Mary, Job and John.
Smith
 The children of Christopher and Mary Hank (abagf) Smith were Caleb Hank, 1828; Susan Catherine, 1830; Jehu Hammett, 1832; John William, 1834; Mary Virginia, 1836; and William Monroe, 1838.
Cherrington
 The children of William and Margaret Hank (abagb) Cherrington were

Thomas, 1779; John, 1781; William, 1787; Rachel, 1784; Clement, 1791; Susan, 1789; Ellen, 1794; and Josiah, 1797.

Bryan

The children of Thomas and Susannah Hank (abae) Bryan were John, Benjamin, Thomas, Ahaz, Margaret and Ellen.



